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American Perennial Gardens Return Postage Guaranteed Garden City, Michigan P. O. Box 37

### SEEDS OF NATIVE PLANTS

# **Crop of 1953**

25c per packet except as noted. All are postpaid. Residents of Michigan add 3% sales tax.

Actaea alba · White Baneberry. Small white flowers followed by white fruit with black tip. 2 ft. Sh.

Actaea rubra · Red Baneberry. Small white flowers followed by red fruit, 2 ft. Sh.

Actinea herbacea . Lakeside Daisy. Yellow daisy in spring. Rare and choice. 6-10 in. S. 35c.

Allium cernuum - Nodding Onion. Nodding lilac flowers. July, 1 ft. S.

Allium recurvatum superbum - Pagosa Onion. Showy pink flowers in July. 20 in. S.

Aquilegia canadensis - American Columbine, red and yellow, May-June, 1-3 ft. S or L, Sh.

Aquilegia chrysantha · Golden Columbine. Long spurred yellow flowers, May-June, 2-3 ft. S or L, Sh.

Aquilegia coerulea · Colorado Columbine. Long spurred blue and white. Colo. state flower, 1-11/2 ft. 50c.

Aquilegia longissima - Longest spurred of all Columbines. Pale yellow. July-Aug. 50c.

Argemone intermedia · Prickley Poppy. 4 in. crinkley blooms all summer. 2 ft. S. Sow where wanted.

Arisaema triphyllum - Jack-in-the-Pulpit. Named odd shaped flower. 1-2 ft. Sh.

Artemisia frigida -Mountain Fringe, velvety-silvery mounds to 4 in., S.

Asclepias tuberosa - Butterfly weed, showy orange flower, June-August, 2 ft., S.

Aster alpinus - An alpine aster to 10 in. Large violet-rayed handsome flower. Choice, 35c.

Baptisia australis - Blue wild Indigo, blue flowers in terminal racemes, June, 3-6 ft., S.

Callirhoe involucrata - Wine Poppy, rose-purple, spring till frost. Beautiful trailer, S.

Camassia quamash - Blue Camas, blue, May-June, 2 ft., S. Campanula rotundifolia - Blue Bells of Scotland, blue, June till frost, 15 in., S or Sh.

Cassia marilandica · Wild Senna, bright yellow flowers, July-August, 3-4 ft., S.

Caulophyllum thalictroides - Blue Cohosh. Small spring flowers. Blue fruit late summer, 1-2 ft. moist shade.

Celastrus scandens - Climbing Bittersweet. A climbing vine to 30 ft. Orange-yellow fruits much used in bouquets and decorating. S. or L. Sh.

Cerastinum alpinum - Alpine Mouse-ear Chickweed.

Wooly grey foliage. Flowers white, June-Sept., 2 in.,

S., 35c.

Celone glabra . White Turtlehead, white, August-Sept., moist or garden conditions, 2-4 ft., S.

Cimicifuga racemosa · Cohosh Bugbane, small white flowers on elongated racemes, summer, 4-6 ft., Sh.

Cimicifuga simplex - Bugbane. Flowers pure white in dense raceme. Oct. Rare, 3 ft., Sh., 35c.

Claytonia virginica · Spring Beauty. Early spring. White or pink. 4 in., L, Sh., 35c.
Clethra alnifolia · Summersweet. White spicy fragrant flowers July-Sept. 3-10 ft. shrub.

Corydalis sempervirens - Pink Corydalis, Bien, very showy first year rosette, 1 ft., S or L, Sh.

Delphinium cardinale - Scarlet Larkspur. Bright red. July-Aug., 3-6 ft, S or L, Sh., 35c.

- Dicentra exinia Wild Bleedingheart. Rose colored flowers, April-Sept., 1 ft., L, Sh.

  Dicentra formosa Western Bleeding Heart, heart-shaped, rose-colored flowers, April-September, 9-18 in.,
- Echinacea angustifolia · Purple Coneflower. Pink daisv like flowers in July, mahogany center, 2 ft., S.
- Eriophyllum integrifolium · Small Oregon Sunshine. May-Aug., 10 in., S.
- Eriophyllum lanatum Oregon Sunshine, 1 ft., S.
- Eriophyllum lanceolatum Oregon Sunshine, 10 in., S.
  - Oregon Sunshines (or wooly sunflowers) gra yellow flowered. Foliage grey-green, more or less woolly. Most attractive both in flower or foliage. Dry location in sun.
  - Eupatorium coelestinum Hardy Ageratum. Flowers blue-purple, Aug.-frost, 12-14 in., S-L, Sh.
  - Euphorbia corollata · Flowering Spurge. Conspicuous small white flowers in summer. 2-3 ft., S.
  - Eschscholtzia californica California Poppy. Mixed yellow through orange. Treat as hardy annual. 18 in. S.
  - Gentiana andrewsii Closed Gentian, closed blue flowers, Sept. Oct., moist or garden conditions, 11/2 ft., S or L, Sh.
  - Gentiana andrewsii alba Similar but white, very rare.
  - Gentiana crinata Fringed Gentian, Bien, possibly most sought for blue flower of North America, August-October, 1-2 ft., S or L. Sh. in short supply, 50c.
  - Gerardia purpurea Purple Gerardia. Showy inch long-foxglove like flowers Aug. Oct. 8-25 in. S.
  - Gilia rubra Skyrocket Flower. Showy scarlet flowers summer. Attractive finely cut foliage. Easy, dry sunny location, 3-4 ft.
  - Heliopsis laevis picheriana · Yellow daisy-like blooms in August, 3 ft., S.
  - Heuchera americana American Alum Root, flower greenish, June. Beautiful mottled foliage, semi-ever-green, 1-2 ft., L. Sh.
  - Hibiscus moscheutos Swamp Rosemallow. Blooms Aug.-Sept. 3-8 ft. S. Widely grown attractive plant.
  - Ilex verticillata · Winterberry. Hardy shrub with ornamental red fruit to midwinter. 3-12 ft., S.
  - Larix laricina Tamarack. A pyramidal shaped narrow leaved tree to 60 ft., S.
  - Liatris scarosa Button Gayfeather, rose-purple, August, dry location, 3-5 ft., S.
  - Liatris spicata Spike Gayfeather, long spikes of rose purple flowers, July-September, 5-6 ft., S.
  - Lilium canadensis var. rubrum Red Meadow Lily. Early summer, 3-4 ft., S or L, Sh.
  - Lilium michiganense Michigan Lily, orange-red- June-July, 4-8 ft., S or L, Sh.
  - Lilium philadelphicum Wood Lily. Upright orange red flowers in summer, 3 ft., S. Requires cool root run. 35c.
  - Lobelia cardinalis Cardinal Flower, bright red, July-October, moist or garden conditions, 3-5 ft., S.
  - Lobelia siphilitica Blue Lobelia, blue flowers, July, moist or garden conditions, 2 ft., S.
  - Lupinus subcarnosus Texas Blue Bonnet. Deep blue flower with white spot. Spring, 8-10 in., S.

- Mertensia virginica Virginia Blue Bells. Pink buds open to blue bells. Early spring, 1-2 ft., S or L, Sh.,
- Monarda didyma Scarlet Bergamot. Bright red. July-August. Rich soil. L, Sh. or S., 2-3 ft., 35c.
- Monarda menthaefolia · Mintleaf Bergamot. Rose or lilac blooms, 1½ ft. Dry location, S.
- Oenthera missourensis · Missouri Primrose, 4 in. yellow flowers, June-August, Prostrate, S.
  Opuntia humifusa (vulgaris) · Prickly Pear, yellow flowers, July. Spiny-thickened leaves. Prostrate, S.
- Penstemon alpinus Large deep blue flowers in July. 12 in., S.
- Penstemon cobaea Showy white to reddish purple flowers. May-June, 2 ft., S.
- Penstemon nitidus Beautiful sky blue flowers, 8-10 in. S., 35c.
- Polemonium pulcherrimum Showy Jacobs ladder. Light blue flowers, 10-12 in., S or L, Sh.
- Polemonium reptans Greek Valarian, bright blue flowers, April-May, moist or garden conditions, 9-12 in., S or L, Sh.
- Polygonatum commutatum · Large Solomon Seal, nodding greenish flowers followed by dark blue berries, 3.5 ft., L. Sh.
- Rudbeckia hirta Black-eyed Susan, Bien, showy yellow, brown centered flowers, summer and early fall, 1-2 ft.
- Sanguinaria canadensis Bloodroot, pure white flowers, April-May, 6-12 in., L. Sh.
- Sarracenia purpurea Pitcher-plant. Carnivorous, tubular leaves. Germinate in sphagnum. Bog garden. S or L. Sh., 35c.
- Scutellaria resinosa Dwarf Scullcap, neat long blooming plant, blue and white, 8-10 in., S. 35c.
- Silene virginica Fire Pink. 11/2 in. bright red flowers. Spring and summer. Dry location. S. 35c.
- Silene wherrii Wild Pink. Large pink blooms on compact plant. Dry location. S. 35c.
- Stokesia leavis Stokes Aster, blue or blue-white, 3-4 in. across, July-August, 1-2 ft., S. or L. Sh.
- Thermopsis carolina · Aaronsrod, yellow flowers in terminal racemes, May-June, 3-5 ft., S.
- Verbena bipinnatifida Small-flowered Verbena. Lilac. Spring till fall. Prostrate, S. 1st year from seed.
- Verbena canadensis Large-flowered Verbena. Pink. Spring till fall. Prostrate, S. 1st year from seed.
- Viburnum opulus var. americanum Highbush Cran-berry. Interesting in flower, beautiful in fruit and fall colors. Fruit used as cranberries and jelly, 6-12 ft. S. Shrub.
- Viola papilionacae var. pricema Confederate Violet. Blue-grey. May. Sun or L. Sh.
- Yucca filamentosa Common Yucca, evergreen, showy white lily-like flowers, early summer, 3-6 ft. S.
- Yucca gluca Soapweed. Greenish-write flowers. May-June. Stiff, narrow grey-green leaves, 3-6 ft. S.

## Seeds of Cultivated Plants

- Achillea filipendulina . Yarrow. The Golden Plate. June-August. Dry location, 3-4 ft. S.
- Agrostemma coronaria atrosanguinea Rose Campion. Blood red, June-July. Silvery foliage, 18-24 in. S.

# Lifetime PLANT MARKER

Permanent—will not rot—vermin proof—heavy gauge, molded white plastic—write on it with ordinary pencil—easy to read.



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100 2.50
500
C-6" Vertical Stake
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100 2.00
500 9.00
D-2" Horizontal Tie on Tag
(Supplied with copper wires)
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75 1.30
100 1.65
500 7.00
E-3" Horizontal Tie on Tag
(Supplied with copper wires)
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75 1.60
100 2.00
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Extra Tie on Wires (Bundles of 100)
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- G.Q. Lifetime Plastic Markers are perfect accessories for the grower who wants permanent, legible, easy to read identification of plants and shrubs, both indoors and outdoors.
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American
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P. O. Box 37
Garden City, Mich.

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Seeds of Cultivated Plants (Continued)

Alyssum idaeum - Rockmadwort. A dwarf creeper. A choice rock plant, S. 50c.

Aquilegia - Short Spurred Blue. A choice hybrid, heavy foliage and large flowers, 2 ft. S or L. Sh.

Aquilegia flabellata nana alba - A Japanese Alpine. 1 ft. Rounded blue-green leaves. Pure white. 35c.

Aquilegia - Mrs. Scott Elliot Hybrids. Mixed colors Long spurs. A choice variety.

Delphinium chinense alba - Pure white single flowers over ferny foliage.

Dianthus gelidus - Varied in color. Fringed and fragrant. Dwarf. 35c.

Dianthus neglectus compacta glauca - Single deep pink fragrant flowers to 4 in. on pin cushion mounds. A rock garden gem. 50c.

Dianthus latifolius atrococcineus - Everblooming Oriental Sweet William. Fiery crimson. All summer, S. 18 in. 35c.

Euphorbia myrsinites - Milkwort. Trailing stems covered with fleshy, glaucous leaves. Flowers yellow. Choice rock or wall plant. 35c. S or Sh.

Gypsophila oldhamiana - Baby's Breath. Flesh or pink tinted flowers July-Sept. 3 ft.

Hibiscus - Giant Hybrids Mixed. Immense red, pink or white hollyhock-like flowers all summer. 4 ft.

Iris pseudacoris - Yellow Water Flag. Bright yellow May-June. 2-3 ft.

Lavandula vera - Lavender, Munstead Strain. Fragrant blue flowers July-August, 1-3 ft.

Linum narbonnense - Flax. A spreading clump of attractive foliage. Flowers azure-blue with white eye. 18 in.

Monarda didyma - Bee Balm. Croftway Pink. An appealing rich rose pink. 2-3 ft. 35c.

Platycodon - Balloon Flower.

Double blue. June-Oct. 11/2-2 ft.

Double white. June-Oct. 11/2-2 ft.

Double white Betty Lou. A choice selection of above. Taller, with waxy white flowers, 50c.

Shell Pink, light pink with darker veining, 2 ft. 35c.

Polemonium caeruleum - Jacobs Ladder. Stems erect to 3 ft. Leaves attractive dark green. Blue flowers over long season.

Rosa multiflora - Japanese Rose. Thorny. Used as a hedge rose or living fence.

Saxifraga crassifolia - Leather Saxifrage. Large evergreen leaves. Rose-purple flowers, April-May, 16 in. 50c.

We would be pleased to correspond with persons who collect seed of native wild flowers or other rare plants. Seed should be properly ripened, true to name, fresh and from areas where temperature falls below zero. Seed wanted for our own use.

American Perennial Gardens is located in Garden City on Venoy Road, north of Ford Road and just south of Warren Road. Venoy Road is four miles west of Telegraph Road, U. S. 24.

A plant list is published in the spring. The garden is open for local plant sales 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Visitors will be welcome on those days.

Direct all seed orders to P. O. Box 37, Garden City, local as well as out of state orders.

## **Planting Directions**

We do not recommend broadcasting wild flower seed. True this is done in nature. It is also true that of the many seeds formed only the few that fall in ideal locations germinate, and fewer yet live to maturity.

As a general rule seeds formed early in the season should be planted at once. Those formed late summer or fall should be planted late fall or during an open period during the winter to give them the freezing and thawing necessary for many of them to germinate.

Many of our plants are grown from seeds planted directly in the ground. Our seed beds are five feet wide and run from east to west. The portion of bed containing seedlings that require shade is covered by lattice running north and south. The lattice is about eighteen inches above the bed. Beds laid out in this way and so covered provide a constantly changing pattern of light and shade. Additional lattice is used around and over the beds of those plants requiring more shade. The lattice not only provides shade for the young plants but also helps conserve moisture and protects against strong winds. The ground is also kept cooler under the lattice. Germination of many species is better when the ground is kept cool.

Beds should be laid out in a well drained area or slightly raised. The soil should be of a light or loose texture. A very light mulch of sawdust, straw or other suitable material over the beds helps to conserve moisture and lessen erosion from either wind or rain. The mulch also aids in preventing crusting.

After planting the beds should be kept moist, not wet.

We plant small quantities and fine seeds in flats or tin cans filled with sphagnum moss. (We use five quart cans obtained at gas stations, cut down to five inches. Holes are punched in bottom for drainage). Cover larger seeds with moss but merely sprinkle fine seeds ovr the moss. For complete instructions, see Leaflet No. 243 U.S.D.A. (obtained from Supt. of Documents, Washington, D. C., 5c).

We have good results using vermiculite and a complete fertilizer instead of moss.

Sphagnum moss can be purchased at most florists or at any florist supply company. Vermiculite can be purchased from any building supply dealer. Use the plaster grade.

The use of moss or vermiculite in containers allows the planting of seed at any time. Root disturbance is very slight when transplanting from either of these mediums.

Good sources of information on propagation by seeds are L. D. Hill "The Propagation of Alpines," and Bailey's "Cyclopedia of Horticulture."

If we grow our native flowers from seed we are not contributing to the despoilation of any natural area, by our own collecting or that of others. Conservation should include bringing native flowers into our gardens for all to enjoy and propagating them in such quantities that we can use them to repopulate the areas where they were once plentiful!